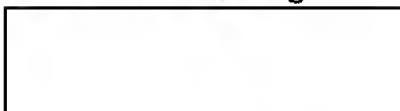


16 March 1950

Mr. Nelson McLaughlin



Dear Mr. McLaughlin:

Thank you very much for your letter of
8 March 1950 containing information on the caverns
in Arizona. This was a most interesting letter and
we appreciate your thinking of us.

Very sincerely,

R. H. Hillenkoetter
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

D:RHH:lec
Distribution:
Orig--addressee
1 cc--DCI
1 cc--Central Records

NOTE FOR RECORD: Basic states: In our development work for Yavapai County, Arizona, we came across indications that there may be in this area one of the largest underground caves in the nation. Recognizing the fact that this may be of tremendous importance to the country in the future, we are enclosing a copy of a letter on this subject from a geologist. Enclosure is cy of ltr addr to Mr. McLaughlin from William Crocker, [redacted] Prescott Ariz describing region between Grand Canyon and Verde River with drawing indicating limestone deposits, etc. STA

*Basic sent to NSAB - some members -
NSAB file.*

SIGNATURE RECORD AND COVER SHEET

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	REGISTRY
SOURCE:	CIA CONTROL NUMBER:
DATE OF DOCUMENT:	DATE DOCUMENT RECEIVED:
COPY NUMBER (S):	LOGGED BY:
NUMBER OF PAGES: DOCUMENT NO.	
NUMBER OF ATTACHMENTS:	

ATTENTION: THIS FORM WILL BE ATTACHED TO EACH TOP SECRET DOCUMENT RECEIVED BY THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OR CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET WITHIN THE CIA AND WILL REMAIN ATTACHED TO THE DOCUMENT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS IT IS DOWNGRADED, DESTROYED OR TRANSMITTED OUTSIDE OF CIA. ACCESS TO TOP SECRET MATERIAL IS LIMITED TO THOSE INDIVIDUALS WHOSE OFFICIAL DUTIES RELATE TO THE MATERIAL. EACH ALTERNATE OR ASSISTANT TOP SECRET CONTROL OFFICER WHO RECEIVES AND/OR RELEASES THE ATTACHED TOP SECRET MATERIAL WILL SIGN THIS FORM AND INDICATE PERIOD OF CUSTODY IN THE LEFT-HAND COLUMNS PROVIDED. THE NAME OF EACH INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SEEN THE TOP SECRET DOCUMENT AND THE DATE OF HANDLING SHOULD BE INDICATED IN THE RIGHT-HAND COLUMNS.

[illegible]

NOTICE OF DETACHMENT

WHEN THIS FORM IS DETACHED FROM TOP SECRET MATERIAL IT WILL BE COMPLETED IN THE APPROPRIATE SPACES BELOW AND TRANSMITTED TO CENTRAL TOP SECRET CONTROL FOR RECORD.

The Top Secret material detached from this form was:

DOWNGRADED

BY: _____
(SIGNATURE)

DESTROYED

DISPATCHED (OUTSIDE CIA) TO: _____

(OFFICE) _____ (DATE) _____

(DATE)